

capacity” as set forth in the present application is not present. This said, a reserve capacity of less than 1.5 is not disclosed in Hawthorne et al.

Applicant’s attorney has also carefully reviewed the specifically cited Figure 7 of Hawthorne et al. This figure comprises 2 graphs. The first is a plot of load coil spring force versus spring group travel. There is no depiction of reserve capacity in this plot. In fact, the spring group travel ends at a “solid spring pos(ition).”

The other plot of Figure 7 is column load versus spring group travel. There is no depiction of reserve capacity in this plot. In fact, the spring group travel ends at a “solid spring position.”

For these reserves, the rejection under 35USC 102(b) in view of Hawthorne et al is believed to be improper.

Reconsideration of the rejection is requested.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Brosius", written in a cursive style.

Edward J. Brosius
Registration No. 28,695

EJB\cab

AMSTED Industries Incorporated
205 North Michigan, 44th Floor
Chicago, IL 60601
(312) 819-8482